

BRINDILLA SEIZURE MAY BE MADE TEST

State Department Expects to
Settle Question of German
Ship Purchases.

BRITAIN OPPOSES PLAN

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—The receipt of complete reports as to the seizure of a British warship of the Standard Oil steamer Brindilla, formerly a German vessel, is awaited here with great interest, as it is anticipated that the case may prove of decisive importance in regard to the maritime questions in the present war.

The State Department has been advised of the arrival of the Brindilla at Halifax under convoy of British warships, but the circumstances of and reasons for the Brindilla's seizure have not yet been reported.

Pending receipt of full telegraphic report from the Consul at Halifax, acting Secretary of State Lansing has asked the Department of the Treasury and of Commerce to furnish him such information as is available regarding the previous history of the Brindilla and the circumstances of her transfer to American registry. State Department officials are hopeful that these reports will prove that Great Britain acted under a misapprehension and that there will be no difficulty about the case.

The only explanation offered for the seizure of the Brindilla as soon as she got outside of New York is that the British government does not recognize as valid the transfer of flag and considers the Brindilla to be still a German vessel, on the ground that she was sold by her German owners to evade the consequences of the war.

It has been previously intimated that in cases where the ownership of German registered vessels was not actually American to begin with, Great Britain would refuse to recognize the transfer of such vessels to the American flag, on the ground that such transfers would be only for the purpose of evading the consequences of the war.

The adoption of such an attitude by Great Britain would throw into confusion plans for the wholesale purchase by Americans of the United States Government of the German ships tied up in American ports because of the British control of the seas. As no case of this sort has arisen it would also lead to diplomatic negotiations between the two governments concerning the British position, which is founded on provisions in the Declaration of London.

It was said today, though unofficially, on behalf of the Brindilla that while it is true that she was under the German flag and owned by the Deutsche Amerika Petroleum Company, the beneficial ownership did not change with her purchase by the Standard Oil Company, because the former concern is but a subsidiary of the American corporation.

Expect to Clear Up Doubt.

There is nothing official obtainable here confirming this alleged relationship between the Deutsche Amerika company and the Standard, but it is expected the reports to be received in the case will entirely clear up this.

Should it appear that the German concern is owned by the American company the case will be materially altered. In that event it is not expected that the British authorities will refuse to recognize the transfer of a vessel under a foreign flag has been clearly established, as in the case of the United Fruit Company's vessels, Great Britain has made no objections to a transfer of flag.

It is understood the prize court at Halifax will convene soon for the indication of the case of the Brindilla. The United States Consul will be allowed to appear in the case and also representatives of the vessel's owners.

LEFT TO WASHINGTON.

Brindilla's Status Submitted by Standard Oil Company.

David P. Warden, head of the marine department of the Standard Oil Company, said he had submitted the question of the Brindilla's transfer to the authorities at Washington and was awaiting their decision. He did not expect to hear from them immediately, Mr. Warden said.

"The Brindilla has sailed to reach Alexandria, Egypt, carrying thirty-three tons of oil and carrying 800 tons. In regard to the report that she was headed for the West Indies we cannot see how that could be determined, when she was seized just outside Sandy Hook and had not stood on her course."

Mr. Warden expressed himself as confident of getting the tanker back.

GUARD ON BRINDILLA.

Domestic Government Gets Lawyers for Prize Ship Case.

HALFAX, Oct. 19.—The Dominion Government department of Justice at Ottawa telegraphed to a law firm in Halifax today retaining it to act for the Government in the case of the oil tank steamer Brindilla, brought in as a prize by the Canadian. A law firm in Halifax has been made in any direction regarding the prize. She lies in the stream with the Stars and Stripes still flying, but with a military guard from this garrison on board.

The law allows ten days to elapse before anything need be done, and the indications are that most of this time will elapse before action is taken. There evidently will be no haste.

The Judge in Admiralty who will preside in the prize court has been out of the city for two days and has not yet returned. The owners, so far have not retained counsel and the American Government is not yet represented. The Consul has had no official communication from Washington.

SWEDISH VESSELS SEIZED.

Government May Send Warships to Convoys Wood Craft.

By HERBERT DUCKWORTH.

Special correspondent of The Sun and the London Daily News.

COPENHAGEN, Oct. 19.—Sweden is complaining of the repeated seizure of neutral ships in German Baltic harbors. Ten vessels used in the wood trade are now at Stockholm, and this trade is practically at a standstill. Proposals have been made to protect the trade by sending Swedish warships to convoy the wood ships.

To allay suspicions that neutral ships to Scandinavia are carrying contraband from America, the Swedish Government would welcome an arrangement by which a British representative would examine all cargoes arriving in Swedish waters.

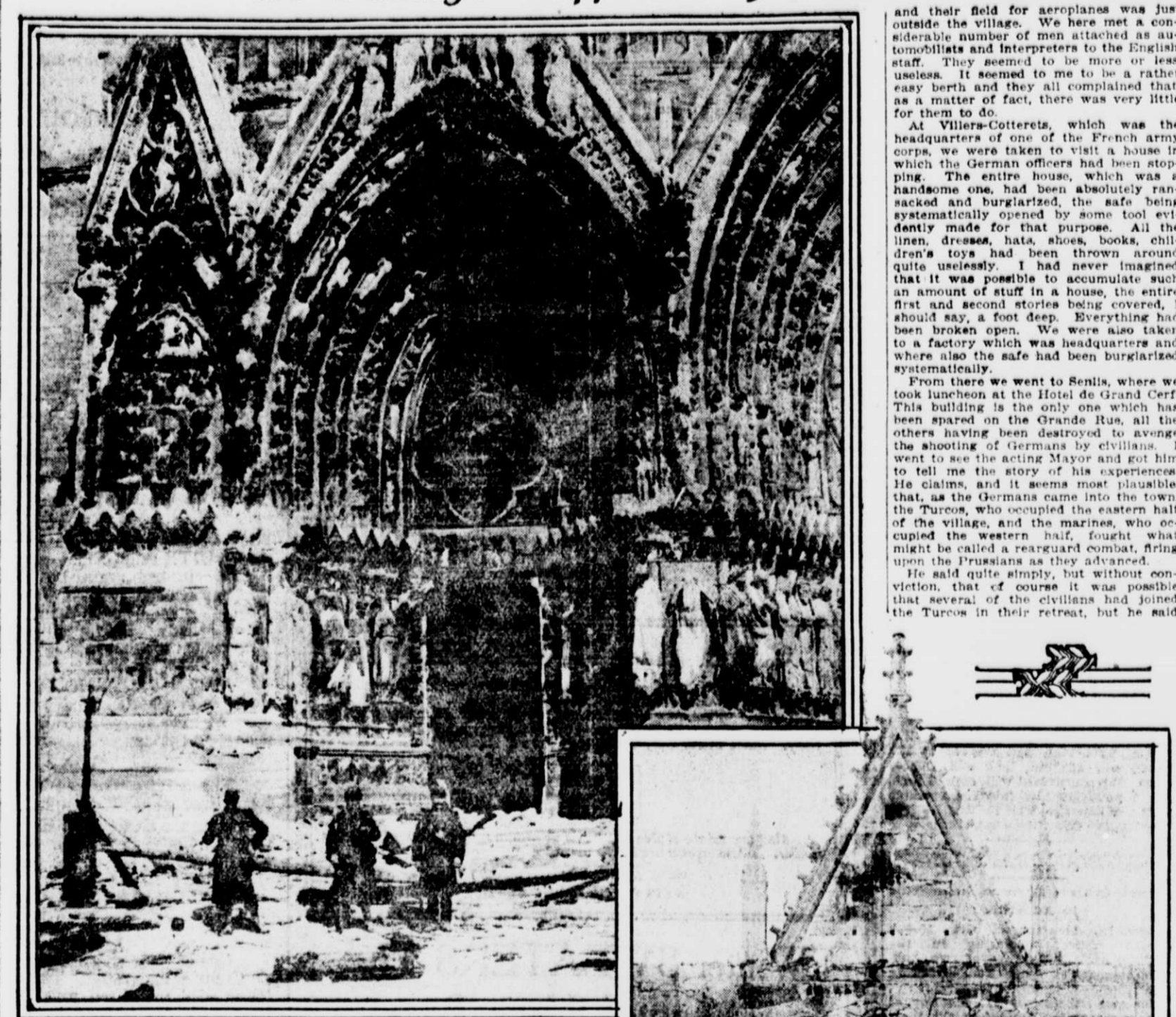
AMERICANS WOULD SEE WAR.

Military Observers Continue to Make Requests in London.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—Despite the fact that a refusal has been elicited in every case, requests still continue to be made to the Admiralty and the War Office to allow the presence of American military observers at the front.

Full Text of Whitney Warren's Report on Damage Suffered by Rheims Cathedral



One of the main doors of Rheims Cathedral after the bombardment. French infantrymen are standing guard.

Decorative Motifs Are Lost and Sculptures Destroyed, but Organ Is Intact, American Architect Tells French Institute—Strong Construction Saves Walls.

THE SUN prints below the full report of Whitney Warren, the American architect, on the damage done to Rheims Cathedral by German shells. Mr. Warren's report has just been read before the French Institute and a brief summary of it has already been published here by cable.

PARIS, Sept. 28.—On Friday, September 25, I received word from the embassy that the French Government had made arrangements to take me to Rheims in order that I might make a report on general conditions and especially upon the cathedral. So at 8 o'clock the next morning I started off with two automobiles under the escort of Capt. Henri Charbonnel, accompanied by two soldiers, one automobile, conducted by Mr. Hall of New York, containing Major Morton Henry, Major Cobby and Lieut. Boyd of the embassy.

We followed the route direct to Meaux, then to La Ferté-sur-Jouarre, from there to Chateau-Thierry, where we picked up a third automobile containing Capt. Perrin, with authority from Gen. Joffre to conduct us anywhere we chose to go, providing it was safe.

From there to Epervier, where we had luncheon, and then to Chalons-sur-Marne, where was stationed the chief d'état-major. There they told us it was possible to go to Rheims, although the bombardment had been rather severe the day before. So we turned north-west and proceeded to Rheims, passing by Conde-sur-Marne and Verzy. Here we passed many troops, who, although fatigued, seemed to be in very good condition, and we arrived at Rheims at 4:30, proceeding directly to the cathedral, where I remained until dark, talking and visiting the monument with the Cure Landrieux and the Abbe Thiot, who had been in charge of the cathedral from the commencement.

The next day I was again at the cathedral, from 7:30 in the morning until 4:30 in the afternoon, visiting it in every particular, endeavoring to realize the damage done, whether intentionally inflicted or not. The following is as near as I am able to ascertain the different phases of the bombardment:

Four Bombs on First Day.

On September 4, when the Germans first entered Rheims, there was a first bombardment by their guns, interpreted by the Germans themselves as either a mistake or caused by the jealousy of some corps not allowed that privilege. Four bombs fell upon the cathedral—one on the north transept, doing but little damage, however.

On September 14 and 15, after the Germans had evacuated the city and the French had entered, the bombardment recommenced, but without touching the cathedral. On September 17 two bombs struck, one on the apse and the other on the north transept.

On the 18th the cathedral was again hit on the southern flying buttresses and on the roof, killing a gendarme and several German wounded.

On September 19 the cathedral was fairly riddled by bombs during the entire day and at about 3:45 the scaffolding surrounding the north tower caught fire. This fire lasted about one hour, and during that time two further bombs struck the roof, setting it also on fire. The cure claims that one of these bombs must have been incendiary, otherwise it would be impossible to explain the extraordinary quickness with which the fire spread throughout the roof timbers.

The fire from the scaffolding descended until it reached the north door of the main facade, which caught rapidly, burned through and communicated to the straw with which the floor of the cathedral was covered. This straw had been ordered on September 12 by the German commander in order to prepare the cathedral to receive 3,000 German wounded, but the evacuation of the city by the Germans had prevented the cathedral being used for that purpose.

When the French came back the straw was gathered together with the intention of removing it, but on the seventeenth the French General ordered it to be re-spread, the flag of the Red Cross hoisted on the north tower and the German wounded placed there, in the hope that this might save the cathedral.

As I have said, on September 19 the straw caught from the fire originating in the scaffolding, burning through the doors and destroying what was known as the very fine wooden tabernacles, or vestibules, surrounding these doors on the inside, and also calcinating the extraordinary stone sculpture decorating the entire interior of this western wall. These sculptures were peculiar to Rheims, being in high, full relief and cut out of the mass of the stone itself instead of being applied. This is one of the irreparable destructions occasioned.

All the wonderful glass of the nave is absolutely gone, that of the apse still exists, though greatly damaged.

Decorative Motifs Lost.

The fire on the outside calcinated the greater part of the facade, the north tower and the entire clerestory, with the flying buttresses and the turret crowning each of them. This stone, as far as its surface is concerned, is irreparably damaged and when touched detaches itself, consequently all decorative motifs wherever the flames reached are lost.

The treasure saved at the commencement of the fire by the priests and the tapestries for which Rheims is so greatly renowned had been fortunately removed before. Half the stalls have been destroyed. The organ is intact and several crucifixes and pictures in the apse are untouched.

That anything remains of the monument is owing to the strong construction of what might be called the carcass of the cathedral and, I am firmly convinced, through no desire on the part of the bombardment forces to spare this monument. The walls and vaults are of a robustness which can resist even modern implements of destruction, for even on September 24, when the bombardment was again taken up, three bombs landed on the cathedral, but the vaults resisted absolutely, not even being perforated.

Had the Cathedral of Amiens received the same punishment, because of the lightness of its construction of the vaults would undoubtedly have given way, the flying buttresses would have crashed in the walls and nothing would have remained but a mass of crumbled stone.

There is one instance of a bomb striking the tower, if anything therefore remains of Rheims Cathedral it is due, as I have already said, to the robustness of its construction and not to any desire on the part of the bombardment to spare it from utter destruction.

The monument, about which no troops were massed, towers above the rest of the town, and, in view of the robustness of its construction, it is because it was serving as a hospital, would have been an easy target. The entire quarter of the city situated between it and the cemetery is destroyed, including the Episcopal Palace, which contained the Archaeological Museum, the Episcopal Chapel, and what was known as the "apartment of the kings." This quarter also contained the principal commercial houses.

"Blind Rage" Causes Attack.

It would seem that the only explanation which can be offered was blind rage upon the part of the besieging army.

There are two monuments of almost equal importance to the world which are in jeopardy of the same fate as the Cathedral of Rheims, viz: the Cathedrals of Noyon and Laon. That these will be destroyed is to be hoped, in spite of the ruthless and miserable attempt to reduce the glorious monuments of Rheims to ruins.

On Friday, September 25, the Germans further shelled the Abbey of Bigny at Rheims, one shell exploding in the interior

and their field for aeroplanes was just outside the village. We here met a considerable number of men attached as automobilists and interpreters to the English staff. They seemed to be more or less useless. It seemed to me to be a rather easy matter and they all complained that, as a matter of fact, there was very little for them to do.

At Villers-Cotterets, which was the headquarters of one of the French army corps, we were taken to visit a house in which the German officers had been stopping. The entire house, which was a handsome one, had been absolutely ransacked and burglarized, the safe being systematically opened by some tool evidently made for that purpose. All the linen, dresses, hats, shoes, books, children's toys had been thrown around quite uselessly. I had never imagined that it was possible to accumulate such an amount of stuff in a house, the entire first and second stories being covered, I should say, a foot deep. Everything had been broken open. We were also taken to a factory which was headquarters and where also the safe had been burglarized systematically.

From there we went to Senlis, where we took luncheon at the Hotel de Grand Cerf. This building is the only one which has been spared on the Grande Rue, all the others having been destroyed to avenge the shooting of Germans by civilians. I went to see the acting Mayor and got him to tell me the story of his experiences. He claims, and it seems most plausible, that as the Germans came into the town, the Turcos, who occupied the eastern half of the village, and the marines, who occupied the western half, fought what might be called a rearguard combat, firing upon the Prussians as they advanced.

He said quite simply, but without conviction, that of course it was possible that several of the civilians had joined the Turcos in their retreat, but he said

and destroying an immense quantity of glass. The civil hospital, which occupies the cloisters of St. Remi, received as its quota nine bombs, one of which killed four of the patients in the beds, and another, one of the attendants. Needless to say that over this building also were flying flags of the Red Cross.

On Sunday, September 27, I spent about two hours on top of the north tower of the cathedral, behind the parapets, where I could not be seen, watching the bombardment of the French forces, which was going on in the suburbs of the town, situated at about two kilometers from my point of vantage. It was most interesting, the precision with which the German shells arrived in groups of six at intervals of 15 seconds, three to five minutes. The French troops were all wonderfully covered so that they could not be seen, their bodies being concealed under straw or beet leaves, according to the character of the ground upon which the battery was established.

No smoke came from their guns, their powder being absolutely smokeless, and yet the Germans seemed to have located them very thoroughly and kept up a continual bombardment, their shells landing repeatedly over the same place, seemingly, without any deviation whatever.

Shot Proclaims "Lights Out."

We all slept the Saturday and Sunday nights in Rheims, which was in a state of siege, all lights being out at 8 o'clock. One of our party foolishly left his window open while he had his light on, a pistol shot from the police drew attention to the fact and the entire electric light of the hotel was immediately cut off.

In the day time great numbers of the population would leave the city and go out in the suburbs on the safe side to watch the combat, returning at night to their homes to see what destruction had been occasioned and, if possible, to get a night's rest. I had a large quantity of tobacco with me, which was received by the troops and by the civilians with great joy, for they had seen none for a month, the Germans having taken everything.

While the commercial part of the city had been absolutely destroyed, in other parts one would find places where straw had fallen, doing great damage. It all seemed absolutely ruthless and useless. The cure of the cathedral told me that the Germans during their occupation had established an observation post in the north tower with an electric searchlight. This they took away with them and some of the French officers, during the first days of occupation, occasionally went up there to have a look, but the cure had strongly objected and they had given it up.

I know that the two days that I was there nobly but myself went into the tower and I did so unknown to the authorities, being very careful not to show myself, as I was assured it would draw fire if the Germans saw anybody there about on it. I think, myself, that this is an exaggeration, as their line of observation must be at least seven or eight miles removed and at that distance even with the strongest glass, it would be almost impossible to distinguish a human silhouette.

We left Rheims at 7 o'clock on Monday morning, proceeding to Villers-Cotterets and stopping at La Ferté-sur-Jouarre, which was the headquarters of the English. Here there were great quantities of automobiles and considerable commotion that it was his honest opinion that this was not the case. The village had been bombed before the arrival of the Ger-

mans, and the Mayor had taken refuge in the cellar of the Mairie. When the Germans arrived at about 3 o'clock they dragged him out and took him to a little place about three kilometers from Senlis, where he is supposed to have been questioned, together with other hostages. At 10 o'clock that night he was shot, and buried where he fell.

The next day seven other hostages were shot in view of the fact that some civilians were accused of having fired upon the military. Three days after this the acting Mayor and a party of citizens recovered the body of the Mayor, who had been buried under a very thin covering of earth in a very shallow grave—so much so that his hands and feet were uncovered. He had one bullet hole in his forehead, which would seem to indicate that the execution was not a military one, but that some officer had, for some reason, shot him—perhaps in a moment of impatience.

From Senlis we went to Clermont, which is the headquarters of the left wing. There I had the great good fortune to be introduced to Gen. Gastelnaud, who showed me his maps and the way a battle was fought on paper. This is one of the greatest privileges I think I have ever enjoyed, and the curious part of it was that their way of working in the military art is very similar to the way we plot and scheme as architects. The General interested me as a very fine, simple citizen. Among other things he said to me:

"My dear sir, how is it possible to fight with these people? They seem to have no mercy, no decency. It really seems impossible to know how to meet them."

I had with him several of his staff officers and one of them was charged with making a report upon the atrocities committed. He allowed me to read several of these reports, and showed me photographs of one incident that impressed me greatly. These photographs this officer had taken himself, and in order to prove that he had seen the incident and was on the ground he was himself in the photograph. This special happening was as follows:

In some little town to the east the Germans had taken out sixteen peasants and field laborers. They bound their hands either in front or at the back, tied them in bunches of five, cut their suspenders and unbuttoned their trousers so that escape was impossible and shot them in an open field. The report contained the names and ages of these poor claps. The oldest, I remember, was 67, and several were over 60. The French had been able to get no explanation whatever of what had occurred, as the village was absolutely deserted. The persecution of women seems to be quite prevalent.

From here we returned to Paris, passing by Creil and Chantilly without any incident, arriving in Paris at about 8 o'clock at night.

WHITNEY WARREN.

SCOTTISH STEEL WORKS BUSY.

Recruiting Halts So Factories May Fill Government Orders.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—The Government has sanctioned the stoppage of recruiting in some of the Scottish iron and steel centres so that these works may be run night and day on Government orders.

In addition to locomotive engineers already sent to France it is announced that 600 track workers are to be sent from England to work on the damaged French railroads in the western area of the war.

There is no wastage in the Equitable Building

The most extravagant thing in the world is waste, and any business institution which pays rent on no matter how small a percentage of space which it cannot use, is deliberately throwing away money.

Heretofore, of course, the arbitrary arrangement of building interiors has often made it necessary for a tenant to lease waste space along with the worth-while and useful, but with the advent of the Equitable Building, the tenant becomes the arbiter of what he shall pay for, and is under no compulsion to do otherwise.

Leases now being made from May 1, 1915. The building, however, is due to be completed 2 or 3 months ahead of that date.

Equitable Building

Temporary Office, 27 Pine Street

WOULD DOWN KAISER, THEN TALK OF PEACE

French Socialist Organ Says
German "Junkers" Must
Be Humbled First.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

PARIS, Oct. 19.—L'Humanité, the Socialist organ, considers that the proposal of American Socialists to hold an international congress in the cause of peace lacks opportunity, and adds:

"The exact position of the great problem at the present moment is not fully taken into account. Imperial and militarist Germany more than any other willed this war. Although others may share the responsibility, Germany, it should be remembered, unleashed her formidable war machine upon innocent Belgium and pacific France, and the industrial districts where socialism flourishes most have been ravaged most terribly."

"Germany has not yet experienced the horrors of an invasion. The abominable class pride of the Junkers, the owners of the great estates, the pan-Germanist manufacturers and the Bismarckian professors, although disturbed by the untamable resistance they have met, are not yet humbled."

"Peace negotiations therefore are as yet impossible. To crush the enemy of the peace of Europe—since, alas! the German people have thus far not been willing or able to do so—we must continue the struggle until a definite result is obtained."

"We must continue without savage hatred, abject Chauvinism or barbarous revenge, but with force and dignity, to safeguard our beloved republic of France to create a new Europe. When that is done the Socialists of all countries can establish international peace on a definite basis."

BUY WAR SUPPLIES IN CANADA.

Britons Will Continue to Make Some Purchases Here, However.

OTTAWA, Oct. 19.—F. Stobart, purchasing agent for the British War Office, is here today arranging for war supplies for the British army. Mr. Stobart's visit is a result of complaints by Canadian manufacturers that the War Office was giving the bulk of its orders to the manufacturers of the United States. He makes it plain that all supplies which can be purchased more economically in the United States will be obtained there.

An order for 50,000 saddles and bridles for the Russian, French and British armies has been distributed among a number of Canadian dealers for immediate manufacture.

MORE CANADIANS IN ENGLAND.

Many Troops Land and Start for Unnamed Destination.

LONDON, Oct. 19.—A large number of Canadian troops were landed today at Avonmouth, augmenting the force of Canadians already in England.

The men entrained immediately for a destination which was not announced.

Saw 50 Transports With Canadians.

Passengers of the Atlantic Transport liner Minnewaska, in yesterday from London, saw on October 12, when two days out, thirty British transports, all abreast, filled with Canadian troops and bound for England, under convoy of a squadron of British warships. The troops arrived in England last week.

To Arraign "Tango Thief."

Herbert J. Eaton, the self-confessed "tango thief," who was shot just before his capture, was reported completely recovered yesterday by the surgeons at Bellevue Hospital. He will be arraigned in court today. He is accused of having stolen jewelry of the value of \$15,000.

U. S. MARINES LAND AND CONTROL CAP HAYTIAN

Zamor's Ministry Flees as Haytian
Rebels March Into City
After Victory.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.

CAP HAYTIAN, Hayti, Oct. 19.—American marines were landed here today and are in control of the situation. The action was made necessary by the fact that the victorious rebels entered the town. President Zamor's Ministry, unable to handle the situation, left here on the despatch boat Pacific.

The rebel entrance was orderly and no excesses have been reported. The occupation followed the recent victory of the rebels on the north coast near Limonade and the retreat of President Zamor's forces, the President going in the direction of the banana and cocoa trade here coming here.

WASHINGTON, Oct. 19.—The landing of American Bluejackets at Cap Haytien was reported to the Navy Department today by Commander Twining of the gunboat Tacoma. The situation in Hayti is unsatisfactory and has been almost continuously for nine months. Were it not for other problems of greater importance confronting the Administration in Latin America it is probable that before now decisive steps would have been taken by this government.

The revolutionary government set up by Gen. Zamor and recognized by the United States has been unable to maintain peace and is likely soon to be driven out of power entirely, a result not expected to conduce to the early restoration of peace and good order.

Outrage against American interests have been committed frequently in the last few months, and the Haytian Government has not lived up to its financial obligations, many of which are owing to American interests, principally the National City Bank. The situation is admitted to be such that it could hardly be any worse, yet the Administration hesitates to take the necessary steps to force an improvement.

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